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ABSTRACT

Analyzing selected data on North Carolina's aged population (65 and over), this report utilizes U.S. Census figures, providing tabular data on the migration of the aged and the distribution of the aged population by residence in North Carolina and the U.S. and by North Carolina counties (rural and urban places). Major findings reveal that North Carolina: (1) contains smaller proportions of the aged than the nation as a whole; (2) belongs in a group of 31 states in which the rural population contains a higher proportion of those aged 65 and over than does the urban; (3) has an aging population that lags behind that of the U.S.; (4) has 34 counties with centers of less than 2,500; (5) has a higher proportion of the aged in urban sectors of less than 25,000; (6) has a variance in the proportions of the aged in urban sectors of more than 25,000; (7) has, like the U.S., a strong tendency for places of 1,000 to 2,500 to contain the largest proportions of aged people; (8) has a proportional distribution of aged lowest in the rural-nonfarm areas, intermediate in the urban areas, and highest on farms; (9) has more females than males in small places; (10) has a larger proportion of females in the rural population; and (11) has experienced a net gain of 12,000 elderly as a result of migration and has had more elderly female immigrants than male during the 1960-70 decade. (JC)

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North Carolina's Elderly Population: A Distributional Analysis

By

William B. Clifford

Gary L. Faulkner

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
Progress Report Soc. 61, 1975

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FOREWORD

A central fact about our society is the increasing proportion of aged people. It is likely that this situation will continue for some time. Whether or not this process of aging constitutes or will constitute a problem depends on the planning of responsible individuals and agencies. In order to have effective planning, an adequate data base is essential. This report presents selected data on the aging of North Carolina's population. Hopefully, this will be of use to many individuals in both the public and private sectors of the state who are actively interested in social and economic conditions generally, and more specifically in the elderly.

The publication by T. Lynn Smith and D. G. Marshall on Wisconsin's population provides some of the seminal ideas which are incorporated in this report. We would like to express our appreciation to Dr. Selz C. Mayo, Head, Dr. R. David Mustian, and Dr. A. Clarke Davis of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology for reading and providing helpful suggestions for the final draft of this report.

This is another in a series of reports based on 1970 census data describing and analyzing patterns of population change for North Carolina.

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NORTH CAROLINA'S ELDERLY POPULATION: A DISTRIBUTIONAL ANALYSIS

William B. Clifford Gary L. Faulkner

INTRODUCTION

Recent changes in the age structures of modern societies have been dramatic. Of particular importance is the increase, both absolutely and relatively, in the number of aged persons. This fundamental change in population composition constitutes what demographers refer to as the aging process. The present report focuses on the aging of population in North Carolina and the United States.

There are three factors recognized as contributing to the process of aging. The first is the control of infectious diseases that has occurred in recent times. This, along with better living conditions, has improved one's chances for a longer life as well as increased the average life expectancy. The second is the declining fertility taking place in industrial societies. A decrease in the number of children born results in a smaller proportion of young and a concomitant larger proportion of elderly. The third factor is migration. It has a dual effect in that aging of population tends to be increased in the area of origin and decreased in the area of destination due to the fact that migration tends to be selective of young persons.

The aging of a population may affect the social and economic milieu of an area. A variety of conditions have been associated with aging including high death rates, low birth and marriage rates,

low per capita income, less economic productivity, economic dependency and increased conservatism to name a few. Of course, whether or not the aged constitute a problem depends not only on their number and physical condition but also on their social situation.

Problems arising from a large proportion of inhabitants over the age of 65 are likely to differ from area to area. In addition, the adjustments of communities in terms of providing effective planning and adequate facilities for the elderly will also vary. In order for these concerns to be effectively approached, an adequate data base is necessary. Of critical importance, at least initially, is the need for information on the migration and settlement patterns of the aged. This report attempts to provide such data.

The report is divided into four major sections. The first section presents an analysis of the residential distribution of the elderly in the United States and North Carolina. These comparative materials are included to assess North Carolina's position relative to the nation as a whole. The second section undertakes a more detailed analysis of the pattern in which the aged population of North Carolina is residentially distributed. County level data are included in this part. In the third section, consideration is given to the migration patterns of the elderly in North Carolina. Again, county level data are presented. The final section is a summary of the main findings and conclusions.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE AGED POPULATION BY RESIDENCE IN NORTH CAROLINA AND THE UNITED STATES

In this section consideration is given to the aged populations of the United States and North Carolina. Of particular interest for comparative purposes is the pattern in which the elderly are distributed by residence. In addition, some attention will be given to the sex composition of the aged population as well as the historical trend in aging of population.

Distribution of the Aged: An Overview

The phrase "aging of the population," is used to denote an increase in the proportion of the population classified in the age group 65 and over. In this sense, the aging of the populations of both North Carolina and the United States has increased rather consistently since 1870, but the aging of North Carolina's population has tended to lag behind that of the United States. (See Table 1.) However, the gap between North Carolina and United States is narrowing such that one out of twelve persons in North Carolina was above 65 years of age in comparison to one in every ten in the United States in 1970.

Since 1920 those who had reached 65 years of age made up slightly higher proportions of the rural population of North Carolina than they did the population of the state as a whole. Only in 1960, was the proportion of the aged not higher in rural sections than in the overall population of the state. But, at no time has the difference been of any great magnitude.

TABLE 1. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN THE UNITED STATES, NORTH CAROLINA AND RURAL NORTH CAROLINA, 1870-1970

Year	Population Aged 65 - Over			Percent of Population 65 - Over		
	United States	All North Carolina	Rural North Carolina	United States	All North Carolina	Rural North Carolina
1870	1,153,649	34,279**	(a)	3.0	3.2**	(a)
1880	1,723,459	47,220**	(a)	3.4	3.4**	(a)
1890	2,417,288	57,341**	(a)	3.9	3.5**	(a)
1900	3,080,498	66,148**	(a)	4.1	3.5**	(a)
1910	3,949,524	77,688**	(a)	4.3	3.5**	(a)
1920	4,933,215	98,716**	83,241**	4.7	3.9**	4.0**
1930	6,633,805	115,671**	90,957**	5.4	3.6**	3.9**
1940	9,019,314	156,540	116,783	6.9	4.4	4.5
1950*	12,256,850	225,297	151,416	8.2	5.5	5.6
1960*	16,559,580	312,167	190,342	9.0	6.9	6.9
1970*	20,101,874	414,249	231,031	9.9	8.2	8.3

(a) Not available
* New definition of rural and urban
** Excluding those not reported

The 1970 census of population reported a total of 414,249 persons aged 65 and over in North Carolina, a figure equal to 8.2 percent of the population of the state. Of this total, 231,031 of the elderly were reported as residing in the rural areas. Since the entire rural population of North Carolina as reported by the same census was 2,796,538, one person out of twelve (8.3 percent) of those living in the open country, small towns, or on farms had passed their 65th birthday, a proportion roughly equal to that in the urban areas. Furthermore, in 1970, the proportion of the elderly in rural North Carolina was lower than in the United States as a whole (9.9 percent) or in the rural sections of the nation (10.1 percent).

North Carolina's position in the nation with respect to the aging of the population is illustrated by means of a map prepared by the U. S. Bureau of the Census. (See Figure 1). It shows, for the year 1970 on a county basis, the variations throughout the nation in the percentage of the population in the ages 65 and over. Except for the striking concentration of the aged in Polk County, and their relative scarcity in Cumberland and Onslow counties, North Carolina exhibits the pattern that prevails throughout the southern region and much of the Rocky Mountain area. This is to say that the great majority of its counties contain proportions of those in the advanced ages that are below the national average.

The fact that North Carolina contains lower proportions of the aged than the nation as a whole deserves some additional comment. In 1970 the proportions of those aged 65 and over were 8.2 and 9.9 in North Carolina and the United States, respectively. If North Carolina had contained precisely the same proportion of the elderly as did the general population, it might be said to have had exactly its pro rata share of the elderly.[1] However, the percentages just given indicate that in 1970 North Carolina contained only 83 percent of its pro rata share of the nation's elderly. Also, the concentration of aged males in the state is somewhat less than that of aged females, since the

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[1]The meaning of pro rata share can be illustrated in the following manner. If North Carolina had a disproportionate number of elderly, the index would vary above or below 100. A number smaller than 100 indicates a smaller proportion than the national average, and a larger proportion if the index is above 100. The proportion of the aged for the nation is set at the index level of 100.

FIGURE 1.

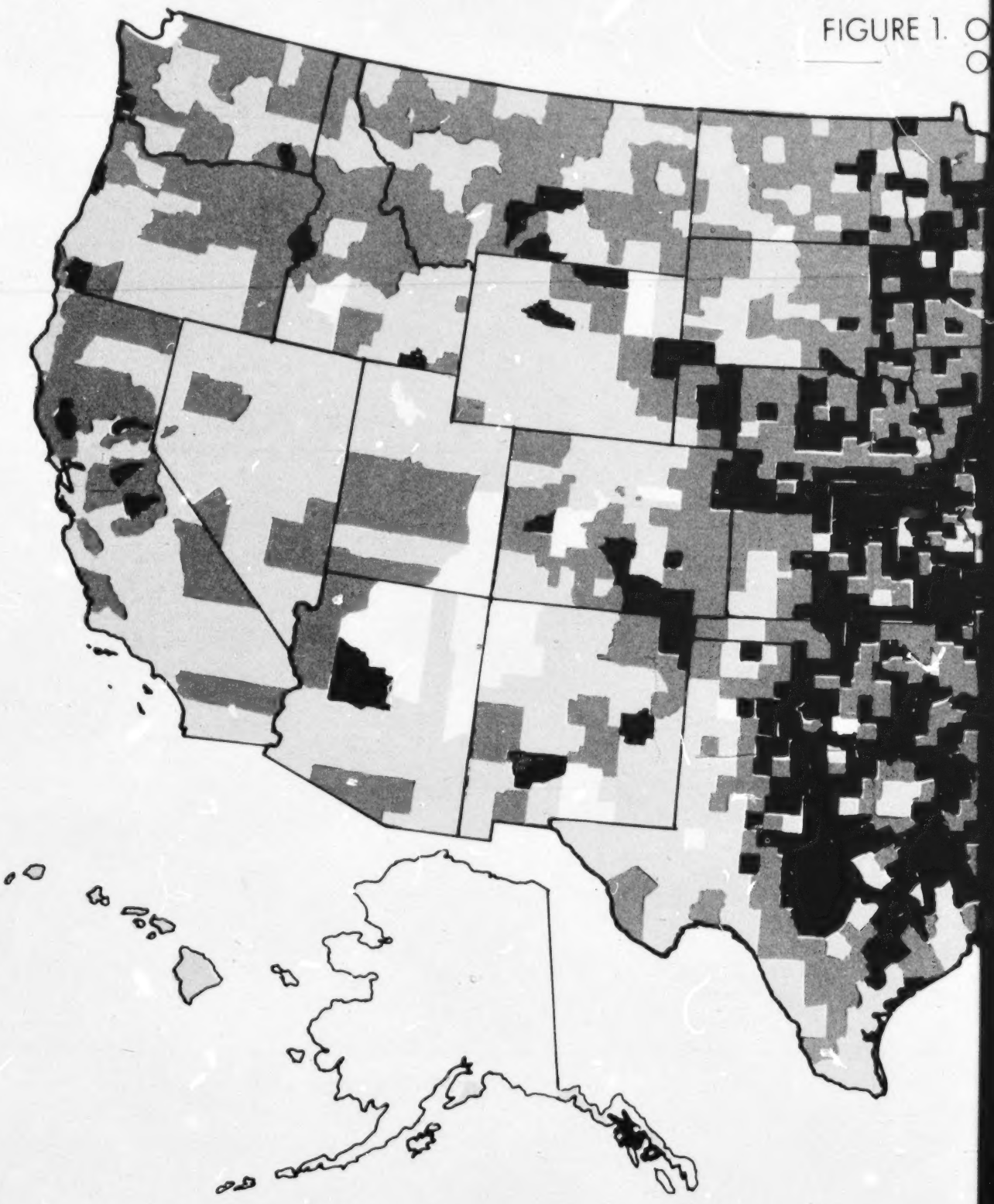
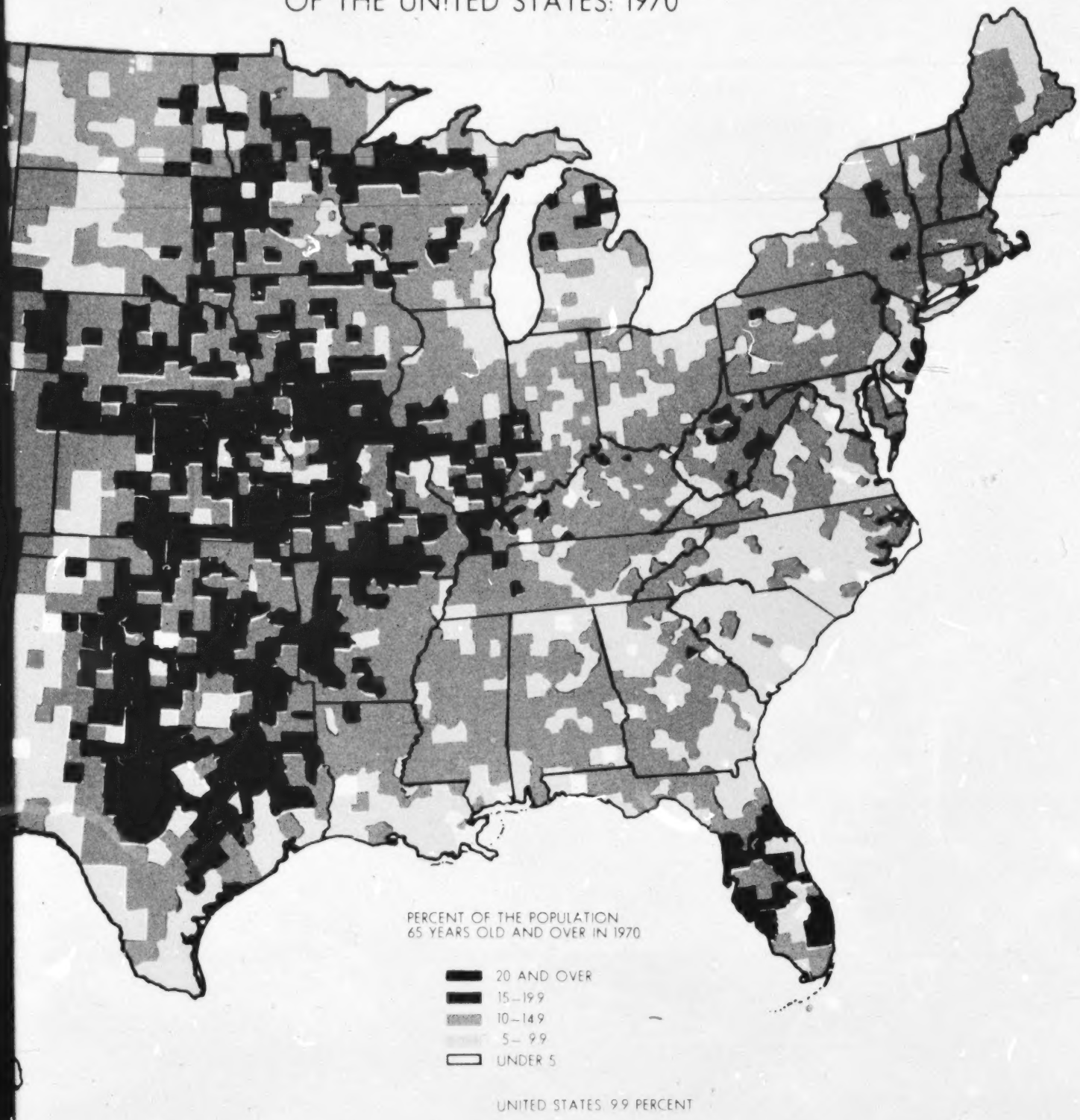


FIGURE 1. OLDER AMERICANS BY COUNTIES OF THE UNITED STATES: 1970



indices for the sexes indicate that North Carolina had in 1970, 81 percent of its pro rata share of all the men in the United States aged 65 and over, and 84 percent of its proportionate share of the females of corresponding ages.

If attention is focused on urban and rural portions of the population, it becomes readily apparent that when the states are arranged according to the relative importance of the aged in those portions of the population, North Carolina ranks in the bottom half of the list. Table 2 shows that the proportion of the elderly, 65 and over, in rural North Carolina is exceeded by those of the rural populations of 38 states. Moreover, 35 states exceed North Carolina in their proportions of elderly living in urban areas. It is evident that North Carolina has a comparatively younger population than the majority of states. This is further indicated by the proportions of elderly residing in urban and rural areas for the United States as a whole:

	Urban	Rural
United States	9.8%	10.1%
North Carolina	8.0%	8.3%

Furthermore, North Carolina is in the group of 31 states in which the rural population contains a higher proportion of those aged 65 and over than does the urban population. There were 16 states in which the reverse was true, leaving three states (Indiana, Montana, and South Carolina) with no rural-urban differential. It is interesting to note that in 1960 in only 25 states was the proportion of those 65 and over higher in rural areas than urban areas. Perhaps a trend

toward greater and/or faster aging of population is occurring in rural than urban areas. The data also indicate that the states in which the aged population is concentrated in the rural areas are generally located in the north central, mid-western and the southern regions of the United States. Regions in which individuals 65 and over are proportionately over-represented in the urban population, are located in the northeastern section of the nation. The western region of the country is relatively equally divided as to urban-rural dominance. It should be noted, however, that there are exceptions to these basic patterns.

TABLE 2. PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER FOR THE UNITED STATES AND EACH STATE BY RURAL-URBAN RESIDENCE, 1970

States in Which the Proportion Was Highest in Urban Areas	Percent of the Population Aged 65 - Over		States in Which the Proportion Was Highest in Rural Areas	Percent of the Population Aged 65 - Over	
	Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural
			United States	9.8	10.1
New England States					
Maine	11.9	11.1			
Vermont	11.8	10.2			
Massachusetts	11.6	8.8			
Rhode Island	11.4	10.0			
New Hampshire	10.9	10.3			
Connecticut	10.1	7.8			
Middle Atlantic States					
Pennsylvania	11.4	9.4	New Jersey	9.7	10.1
New York	11.0	9.5			
East North Central States					
Ohio	9.6	8.8	Wisconsin	10.5	11.2
Indiana	9.5	9.5	Illinois	9.6	11.0
			Michigan	8.5	8.6
West North Central States					
			Nebraska	11.1	14.5
			Kansas	10.6	14.3
			Missouri	11.3	13.6
			South Dakota	11.0	13.0
			Iowa	12.1	12.8
			North Dakota	9.0	12.2
			Minnesota	10.2	11.9

TABLE 2. (continued)

States in Which the Proportion Was Highest in Urban Areas	Percent of the Population Aged 65 - Over		States in Which the Proportion Was Highest in Rural Areas	Percent of the Population Aged 65 - Over	
	Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural
South Atlantic States					
Florida	14.9	13.2	Virginia	7.1	9.3
West Virginia	12.3	10.4	Delaware	7.6	9.0
South Carolina	7.4	7.4	Georgia	7.8	8.4
			North Carolina	8.0	8.3
			Maryland	7.5	8.1
East South Central States					
			Kentucky	10.2	10.9
			Mississippi	9.4	10.6
			Tennessee	9.5	10.3
			Alabama	9.2	10.0
West South Central States					
			Oklahoma	10.9	13.4
			Arkansas	12.1	12.6
			Texas	8.0	12.3
			Louisiana	8.3	8.8
Mountain States					
Idaho	10.2	8.6	Colorado	8.4	8.8
Wyoming	9.5	8.5	Utah	7.1	8.2
Arizona	9.2	9.0	New Mexico	6.8	7.5
Montana	9.9	9.9	Nevada	6.2	6.6
Pacific					
Oregon	11.4	9.7	California	9.0	9.6
Washington	9.6	9.0	Hawaii	5.4	7.7
			Alaska	2.0	2.5

Distribution of the Aged in Major Residential Categories

The pattern in which the aged populations of the United States and North Carolina are distributed among the various residential categories exhibits some similarities as well as some contrasts. Of particular concern for comparative purposes are six major size of place categories, namely:

(1) The central cities of 50,000 or more inhabitants which constitute the "urbanized areas" as designated by the census;

(2) "the fringes," that is the remaining portions of these urbanized areas;

(3) places of 10,000 or more inhabitants apart from any urbanized area;

(4) places of 2,500 to 10,000 inhabitants;

(5) rural places having between 1,000 and 2,500 inhabitants; and

(6) all other rural territory.

For the United States collectively, in 1970 the proportion of the population 65 years of age and over varied among these categories as follows: central cities, 10.7 percent; urban fringe, 7.8 percent; places of 10,000 or more, 10.8 percent; places of 2,500 to 10,000, 12.2 percent; rural places of 1,000 to 2,500, 13.6 percent; and other rural, 9.6 percent. (Table 3) It should be noted that this national pattern merely consists of the averages of vastly differing arrangements found throughout the country.

TABLE 3. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN THE UNITED STATES BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE AND SEX, 1970*

Residential Category	Number 65 and Over			Percent 65 and Over		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	20,101,874	8,437,630	11,664,244	9.9	8.5	11.1
All Urban	14,668,968	5,883,635	8,785,333	9.8	8.2	11.4
Urbanized Areas	11,105,828	4,459,288	6,646,540	9.4	7.8	10.8
Central Cities	6,842,135	2,721,488	4,120,647	10.7	8.9	12.3
Urban Fringe	4,263,693	1,737,800	2,525,893	7.8	6.5	9.1
Other Urban						
Places of 10,000 or More	1,788,025	700,360	1,087,665	10.8	8.7	12.7
Places of 2,500 - 10,000	1,737,262	699,824	1,037,438	12.2	10.2	14.0
All Rural	5,432,906	2,553,995	2,878,911	10.1	9.5	10.7
Places of 1,000 - 2,500	902,665	374,860	527,805	13.6	11.7	15.3
Other Rural	4,531,722	2,181,376	2,350,346	9.6	9.2	10.0
Rural-Nonfarm	4,533,714	2,076,679	2,457,035	9.9	9.2	10.7
Rural-Farm	899,192	477,316	421,876	10.8	11.2	10.5

*The data presented in this table were obtained from different volumes of the 1970 Census. Some of the data were taken from earlier publications and do not reflect corrections made by the Bureau of the Census in later publications. The corrected figures are for totals, all urban, all rural, rural-nonfarm and rural-farm. Thus, some of the sub-categories do not add to the total categories. The error is small and does not change the overall patterns and conclusions.

The North Carolina pattern is not greatly different from the national average. In the state, places of 1,000 - 2,500 contain the highest proportions of old people, closely rivaled by places of 2,500 - 10,000, and the urban fringe ranks lowest. (Table 4) Central cities and places of 10,000 and over are identical in the proportions of old people classified as residing in these areas and the "other rural" class ranks just below them. Moreover, the proportion of elderly in the "urban fringe" in 1970 (3.5 percent) was less than half that (10.1 percent) of all inhabitants in places having populations between 1,000 and 2,500. Overall, the North Carolina pattern is very similar to that prevailing in the United States as a whole except that the level the percentages reach in North Carolina are well below the levels in the United States. That is to say, the proportions of elderly in each residential category for the entire country exceed those for the state.

Some contrasts are apparent when considering the three major residential categories, urban, rural-nonfarm and rural-farm. The proportion of the elderly is lowest in the rural-nonfarm territory in North Carolina and in the urban areas in the entire country, intermediate in urban areas in North Carolina and rural-nonfarm areas of the United States and highest of all on the farms in both North Carolina and the United States as a whole. Although the data are not presented it can be deduced that in the state of North Carolina the proportion of elderly in places under 1,000 is lower than that in the same size category in the United States.

TABLE 4. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN NORTH CAROLINA, BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE AND SEX, 1970*

Residential Category	Number 65 and Over			Percent 65 and Over		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	414,249	170,031	244,218	8.2	6.8	9.4
All Urban	183,218	68,412	114,806	8.0	6.1	9.8
Urbanized Areas	88,873	33,166	55,707	7.3	5.6	8.9
Central Cities	79,968	29,344	50,624	8.4	6.6	9.9
Urban Fringe	8,905	3,822	5,083	3.5	2.7	4.4
Other Urban						
Places of 10,000 or More	54,562	20,465	34,097	8.4	6.4	10.3
Places of 2,500 - 10,000	39,844	14,870	24,974	9.4	7.3	11.4
All Rural	231,031	101,619	129,412	8.3	7.4	9.1
Places of 1,000 - 2,500	24,780	9,549	15,231	10.1	8.2	11.8
Other Rural	206,061	91,942	114,119	8.1	7.3	8.8
Rural-Nonfarm	184,130	79,238	104,892	7.6	6.7	8.5
Rural-Farm	46,901	22,381	24,520	12.5	12.0	13.1

*The data presented in this table were obtained from different volumes of the 1970 Census. Some of the data were taken from earlier publications and do not reflect corrections made by the Bureau of the Census in later publications. The corrected figures are for totals, all urban, all rural, rural-nonfarm and rural-farm. Thus, some of the sub-categories do not add to the total categories. The error is small and does not change the overall patterns and conclusions.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE AGED IN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

It is possible to describe in some detail the manner in which the aged population is distributed among North Carolina's counties. Attention will focus first on the general aspects of the subject and then shift to matters pertaining specifically to the urban and rural populations. The numbers and proportions of those 65 and over for the male, female, and total populations for each county are contained in Table 5. In further elaboration, Table 6 presents data showing the selective importance of aged persons in the various counties along with other factors important in this analysis. This tabulation gives the following information for each of the 100 counties in North Carolina:

(1) The rank of all counties listed according to the relative importance of the aged in the total population;

(2) the percentage of inhabitants over the age of 65 at the time of the 1970 census;

(3) total population in 1970;

(4) the percentage of population classified as urban in 1970; and

(5) the percentage increase or decrease in total population between 1960 and 1970.

A number of observations may be made based on the data presented in Table 5. It is readily apparent that females outnumber males both absolutely and relatively. That is, there were 170,031 males 65 and over, representing 6.8 percent of the total male population as compared with 244,218 females of similar age representing 9.4 percent of the total female population. This difference is probably accounted for by the greater in-migration of females as well as by lower mortality of females. With the exception of Graham county, the pattern of females

outnumbering males, prevails in each of the counties in the state. In Graham county, males 65 and over exceed females, but the difference is negligible, -- 359 versus 353, respectively. It is also interesting to note that in the eight largest counties (Buncombe, Cumberland, Durham, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Mecklenburg, and Wake), although the numerical difference between males and females holds, the proportion of both males and females is smaller than that of the state as a whole except for Buncombe county. In the eight smallest counties, (Camden, Clay, Currituck, Dare, Graham, Hyde, Swain, and Tyrrell), however, the proportions of males and females exceeds the figures for the state.

Close inspection of the data presented in Table 6 reveals that the highest proportions of the elderly are located in counties that are slightly populated, totally rural, and undergoing depopulation. Also, as will be shown later, many of these counties are on the receiving end of substantial streams of migrants who are 65 and over. The highest percentages of the aged are in Polk, Macon, Alleghany, Clay, Henderson, Perquimans, Madison, Tyrrell, Hyde, and Dare counties, listed in descending order. Of these, all except Henderson are exclusively rural, none of them except Henderson had as many as 17,000 inhabitants in 1970, and half had experienced losses of population in the 1960 to 1970 decade (Clay, Hyde, Madison, Perquimans, and Tyrrell). In addition, seven of these counties (Alleghany, Dare, Henderson, Macon, Madison, Polk, and Perquimens) were in the group of 54 which had experienced a net in-migration of elderly during the 1960-1970 decade.

The ten counties having the lowest proportions of the aged are Onslow, Cumberland, Craven, Greene, Mecklenburg, Orange, Wake, Hoke, Wayne, and Caldwell in ascending order. It is interesting to note

that these counties represent a diverse group based on the characteristics presented in Table 6; however, some similarities do exist. The majority have populations above 50,000 inhabitants, are urban, experienced a gain in population and a net in-migration of elderly persons during the decade of the sixties. Greene county is the most notable exception. This particular county is exclusively rural, has under 15,000 inhabitants, and experienced depopulation and a net out-migration during the decade under consideration. It would seem reasonable to conclude that Greene county is losing population due to net out-migration from all parts of the age structure. In addition, the high ranking of three counties -- Craven, Onslow and Cumberland -- with regard to the low percentages of the elderly in their populations, is largely a function of the military personnel located within their boundaries.

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TABLE 5. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN NORTH CAROLINA BY SEX, 1970

State and Counties	Persons Aged 65 and Over		Males Aged 65 and Over		Females Aged 65 and Over	
	Number	Percent of Total Population	Number	Percent Total Male Population	Number	Percent Total Female Population
NORTH CAROLINA	414,249	8.2	170,031	6.8	244,218	9.4
Alamance	7,648	7.9	3,079	6.6	4,569	9.2
Alexander	1,640	8.4	693	7.3	947	9.6
Alleghany	1,156	14.2	504	12.9	652	15.5
Anson	2,718	11.6	1,057	9.4	1,661	13.6
Ashe	2,366	12.1	1,097	11.4	1,269	12.8
Avery	1,258	9.9	558	8.8	700	11.1
Beaufort	3,768	10.5	1,568	9.1	2,200	11.7
Bertie	2,136	10.4	928	9.4	1,208	11.3
Bladen	2,352	8.9	1,021	7.9	1,331	9.8
Brunswick	2,034	8.4	979	8.1	1,055	8.7
Buncombe	17,096	11.8	7,001	10.2	10,095	13.3
Burke	4,858	8.0	2,003	6.8	2,855	9.2
Cabarrus	6,399	8.6	2,548	7.1	3,851	9.9
Caldwell	3,936	6.9	1,727	6.2	2,209	7.6
Camden	586	10.7	275	10.5	311	11.0
Carteret	2,912	9.2	1,255	8.1	1,657	10.3
Caswell	1,709	9.0	759	8.0	950	9.9
Catawba	6,423	7.1	2,529	5.8	3,894	8.3
Chatham	2,752	9.3	1,179	8.1	1,573	10.5
Cherokee	1,940	11.9	892	11.3	1,048	12.5
Chowan	1,128	10.5	469	8.9	659	12.0
Clay	718	13.9	335	13.3	383	14.4
Cleveland	6,042	8.3	2,415	6.9	3,627	9.7
Columbus	3,811	8.1	1,597	7.0	2,214	9.2
Craven	3,682	5.9	1,484	4.6	2,198	7.3
Cumberland	7,068	3.3	2,892	2.4	4,176	4.5
Currituck	825	11.8	362	10.4	463	13.2
Dare	900	12.9	378	11.1	522	14.5
Davidson	7,269	7.6	3,075	6.5	4,194	8.6
Davie	1,883	10.0	832	9.0	1,051	10.9
Duplin	3,298	8.7	1,387	7.5	1,911	9.8
Durham	10,917	8.2	4,242	6.7	6,675	9.6
Edgecombe	4,327	8.3	1,753	7.0	2,574	9.4
Forsyth	17,031	7.9	6,600	6.5	10,431	9.2
Franklin	2,776	10.4	1,141	8.8	1,635	11.8
Gaston	11,131	7.5	4,447	6.2	6,684	9.0

TABLE 5 (Continued)

State and Counties	Persons Aged 65 and Over		Males Aged 65 and Over		Females Aged 65 and Over	
	Number	Percent of Total Population	Number	Percent Total Male Population	Number	Percent Total Female Population
Gates	969	11.4	401	9.4	568	13.3
Graham	712	10.9	359	11.0	353	10.7
Granville	2,864	8.7	1,182	7.3	1,682	10.1
Greene	962	6.4	413	5.6	549	7.2
Guilford	22,363	7.7	8,822	6.5	13,541	8.9
Halifax	5,021	9.3	2,073	8.0	2,948	10.6
Harnett	3,932	7.9	1,566	6.4	2,366	9.4
Haywood	4,563	10.9	2,023	10.0	2,540	11.9
Henderson	5,761	13.5	2,503	12.2	3,258	14.6
Hertford	2,150	9.1	880	7.8	1,270	10.4
Hoke	1,113	6.8	487	5.9	626	7.7
Hyde	719	12.9	297	10.9	422	14.8
Iredell	6,436	8.9	2,619	7.5	3,817	10.2
Jackson	2,007	9.3	971	9.0	1,036	9.6
Johnston	5,350	8.7	2,182	7.3	3,168	9.9
Jones	804	8.2	358	7.5	446	9.0
Lee	2,508	8.2	1,022	6.9	1,486	9.4
Lenoir	4,080	7.4	1,635	6.2	2,445	8.4
Lincoln	2,713	8.3	1,167	7.3	1,546	9.3
McDowell	2,860	9.3	1,256	8.5	1,604	10.2
Macon	2,262	14.3	1,079	13.9	1,183	14.7
Madison	2,097	13.1	984	12.6	1,113	13.6
Martin	2,027	8.2	827	6.9	1,200	9.4
Mecklenburg	23,466	6.6	8,745	5.2	14,721	7.9
Mitchell	1,693	12.6	777	11.9	916	13.3
Montgomery	2,000	10.4	821	8.8	1,179	11.9
Moore	4,223	10.8	1,797	9.6	2,426	11.9
Nash	5,138	8.7	2,122	7.5	3,016	9.8
New Hanover	6,965	8.4	2,685	6.8	4,280	9.9
Northampton	2,393	10.0	998	8.4	1,395	11.5
Onslow	2,322	2.3	1,027	1.6	1,295	3.3
Orange	3,790	6.6	1,539	5.1	2,251	8.1
Pamlico	1,108	11.7	488	10.7	620	12.7
Pasquotank	2,592	9.7	1,036	8.0	1,556	11.2
Pender	1,814	10.0	794	8.9	1,020	11.1
Perquimans	1,099	13.2	499	12.3	600	14.0
Person	2,227	8.6	926	7.3	1,301	9.8
Pitt	5,236	7.1	2,042	5.8	3,194	8.3
Polk	1,893	16.1	793	14.4	1,100	17.7
Randolph	6,020	7.9	2,574	6.9	3,446	8.9

TABLE 5 (Continued)

State and Counties	Persons Aged 65 and Over		Males Aged 65 and Over		Females Aged 65 and Over	
	Number	Percent of Total Population	Number	Percent Total Male Population	Number	Percent Total Female Population
Richmond	3,594	9.0	1,407	7.3	2,187	10.6
Robeson	6,184	7.3	2,534	6.2	3,650	8.3
Rockingham	6,716	9.3	2,769	8.0	3,947	10.5
Rowan	8,951	9.9	3,765	8.6	5,186	11.2
Rutherford	5,065	10.7	2,081	9.1	2,984	12.2
Sampson	4,105	9.1	1,780	8.2	2,325	10.0
Scotland	1,849	6.9	740	5.8	1,109	7.9
Stanly	3,867	9.0	1,593	7.7	2,274	10.3
Stokes	2,262	9.5	1,016	8.6	1,246	10.4
Surry	4,884	9.5	2,041	8.2	2,843	10.7
Swain	925	11.8	424	10.8	501	12.7
Transylvania	1,583	8.0	711	7.2	872	8.8
Tyrrell	493	13.0	214	11.6	279	14.2
Union	4,428	8.1	1,859	6.9	2,569	9.3
Vance	3,125	9.6	1,206	7.7	1,919	11.2
Wake	15,407	6.7	5,909	5.3	9,498	8.2
Warren	2,000	12.7	834	10.9	1,166	14.3
Washington	1,116	7.9	507	7.3	609	8.6
Watauga	1,979	8.5	890	7.9	1,089	9.0
Wayne	5,815	6.8	2,346	5.6	3,469	8.0
Wilkes	4,346	8.8	1,868	7.7	2,478	9.9
Wilson	4,696	8.2	1,894	6.9	2,802	9.4
Yadkin	2,493	10.1	1,099	9.2	1,394	11.0
Yancey	1,492	11.8	675	10.8	817	12.8

TABLE 6. NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES RANKED BY PERCENT OF THE POPULATION AGED 65 AND OVER IN 1970, INCLUDING TOTAL POPULATION, PERCENT URBAN, AND PERCENT CHANGE IN POPULATION BETWEEN 1960 AND 1970

County and Rank	Percent 65 and Over	Total Population	Percent Urban	Change in Total Population 1960-1970	
				Number	Percent
1. Polk	16.1	11,735	--	340	3.0
2. Macon	14.3	15,788	--	853	5.7
3. Alleghany	14.2	8,134	--	400	5.2
4. Clay	13.9	5,180	--	-346	-6.3
5. Henderson	13.5	42,804	28.0	6,641	18.4
6. Perquimans	13.2	8,351	--	-827	-9.0
7. Madison	13.1	16,003	--	-1,214	-7.1
8. Tyrrell	13.0	3,806	--	-714	-15.8
9. Hyde	12.9	5,571	--	-194	-3.4
10. Dare	12.9	6,995	--	1,060	17.9
11. Warren	12.7	15,810	--	-3,842	-19.6
12. Mitchell	12.6	13,447	--	-459	-3.3
13. Ashe	12.1	19,571	--	-197	-1.0
14. Cherokee	11.9	16,330	--	-5	0.0
15. Swain	11.8	8,835	--	448	5.3
16. Yancey	11.8	12,629	--	-1,379	-9.8
17. Currituck	11.8	6,976	--	375	5.7
18. Buncombe	11.8	145,056	52.5	14,982	11.5
19. Pamlico	11.7	9,467	--	-383	-3.9
20. Anson	11.6	23,488	16.9	-1,474	-5.9
21. Gates	11.4	8,524	--	-730	-7.9
22. Haywood	10.9	41,710	27.9	1,999	5.0
23. Graham	10.9	6,562	--	130	2.0
24. Moore	10.8	39,048	15.2	613	5.4
25. Camden	10.7	5,453	--	-145	-2.6
26. Rutherford	10.7	47,337	30.1	2,246	5.0
27. Beaufort	10.5	35,980	24.9	-34	-0.1
28. Chowan	10.5	10,764	44.3	-965	-8.2
29. Montgomery	10.4	19,267	--	859	4.7
30. Franklin	10.4	26,820	11.0	-1,935	-6.7
31. Bertie	10.4	20,528	--	-3,822	-15.7
32. Yadkin	10.1	24,599	--	1,795	7.9
33. Pender	10.0	18,149	--	-359	-1.9
34. Northampton	10.0	24,009	--	-2,802	-10.5
35. Davie	10.0	18,855	13.4	2,127	12.7
36. Rowan	9.9	90,035	42.1	7,218	8.7
37. Avery	9.9	12,655	--	646	5.4
38. Pasquotank	9.7	26,824	52.4	1,194	4.7
39. Vance	9.6	32,691	42.5	689	2.2
40. Surry	9.5	51,415	25.0	3,210	6.7

TABLE 6 (Continued)

County and Rank	Percent 65 and Over	Total Population	Percent Urban	Change in Total Population 1960-1970	
				Number	Percent
41. Stokes	9.5	23,782	--	1,468	6.6
42. McDowell	9.3	30,648	30.6	3,906	14.6
43. Jackson	9.3	21,593	--	3,813	21.4
44. Rockingham	9.3	72,402	44.7	2,773	4.0
45. Halifax	9.3	53,884	36.5	-5,072	-8.6
46. Chatham	9.3	29,554	15.9	2,769	10.3
47. Carteret	9.2	31,603	27.2	663	2.1
48. Sampson	9.1	44,954	15.9	-3,059	-6.4
49. Hertford	9.1	23,529	36.6	811	3.6
50. Richmond	9.0	39,889	33.4	687	1.8
51. Stanly	9.0	42,822	26.0	1,949	4.8
52. Caswell	9.0	19,055	--	-857	-4.3
53. Iredell	8.9	72,197	44.2	9,671	15.5
54. Bladen	8.9	26,477	--	-2,404	-8.3
55. Wilkes	8.8	49,524	6.8	4,255	9.4
56. Nash	8.7	59,122	32.2	-1,880	-3.1
57. Granville	8.7	32,762	32.7	-348	-1.1
58. Duplin	8.7	38,015	14.9	-2,255	-5.6
59. Johnston	8.7	61,737	22.9	-1,199	-1.9
60. Person	8.6	25,914	20.7	-480	-1.8
61. Cabarrus	8.6	74,629	64.0	6,492	9.5
62. Watauga	8.5	23,404	37.4	5,875	33.5
63. Alexander	8.4	19,466	--	3,841	24.6
64. Brunswick	8.4	24,223	--	3,945	19.5
65. New Hanover	8.4	82,996	69.5	11,254	15.7
66. Lincoln	8.3	32,682	16.2	3,868	13.4
67. Cleveland	8.3	72,556	34.0	6,508	9.9
68. Edgecombe	8.3	52,341	47.1	-1,885	-3.5
69. Durham	8.2	132,681	75.9	20,686	18.5
70. Jones	8.2	9,779	--	-1,226	-11.1
71. Lee	8.2	30,467	38.5	3,906	14.7
72. Martin	8.2	24,730	26.6	-2,409	-8.9
73. Wilson	8.2	57,486	51.1	-230	-0.4
74. Union	8.1	54,714	25.3	10,044	22.5
75. Columbus	8.1	46,937	8.9	-2,036	-4.2
76. Burke	8.0	60,364	28.5	7,663	14.5
77. Transylvania	8.0	19,713	26.6	3,341	20.4
78. Alamance	7.9	96,362	52.4	10,688	12.5
79. Randolph	7.9	76,358	30.2	14,861	24.2
80. Forsyth	7.9	215,118	68.8	25,690	13.6
81. Washington	7.9	14,038	34.0	550	4.1
82. Harnett	7.9	49,667	22.5	1,431	3.0

TABLE 6 (Continued)

Country and Rank	Percent 65 and Over	Total Population	Percent Urban	Change in Total Population 1960-1970	
				Number	Percent
83. Guilford	7.7	288,645	76.3	42,125	17.1
84. Davidson	7.6	95,627	37.1	16,134	20.3
85. Gaston	7.5	148,415	60.3	21,341	16.8
86. Lenoir	7.4	55,204	45.0	-72	-0.1
87. Robeson	7.3	84,842	27.3	-426	-4.8
88. Catawba	7.1	90,873	42.9	17,682	24.2
89. Pitt	7.1	73,900	50.0	3,958	5.7
90. Scotland	6.9	26,929	32.9	1,746	6.9
91. Caldwell	6.9	56,699	30.9	7,147	14.4
92. Wayne	6.8	85,408	46.7	3,349	4.1
93. Hoke	6.8	16,436	19.3	80	0.5
94. Wake	6.7	229,006	69.6	59,924	35.4
95. Orange	6.6	57,707	50.3	14,737	34.3
96. Mecklenburg	6.6	354,656	79.6	82,545	30.3
97. Greene	6.4	14,967	--	-1,774	-10.6
98. Craven	5.9	62,554	55.2	3,781	6.4
99. Cumberland	3.3	212,042	76.1	63,624	42.9
100. Onslow	2.3	103,126	57.5	20,420	24.7

The Distribution of the Aged in Urban Places of North Carolina Counties

The materials in Tables 5 and 6, along with the data in Tables 7, 8, and 9, permit an examination of the urban distribution of the aged population in the various sections of the state. Also, these tables permit an analysis of how this distribution changes as the size of the largest center in the county increases.

There were, in 1970, thirty-four (34) counties in North Carolina in which there were no places having as many as 2,500 inhabitants. In fact, thirteen of these rural counties had total populations below 10,000. Of these 34, all but one (Greene county) had higher proportions of the aged than the state average of 8.2. Thus, each contains far more than its pro rata share of the state's elderly. It is also interesting to note that nine out of the top ten having the highest proportions of elderly are in this group of strictly rural counties.

In 1970, there were eleven counties in North Carolina in which the largest center contained from 2,500 to 5,000 inhabitants. There was only one such center in eight of the eleven counties. Of the remaining three counties, two had three centers between 2,500 and 5,000 inhabitants and one had two places in this size category. These eleven counties closely approximate the 34 exclusively rural counties in their basic patterns of social and economic arrangements, except that in each of them at least one of the trade and service centers had a population of not less than 2,500, but not more than 5,000. Moreover, in 8 out of 11 counties, the urban center happens to be the county seat. In all of them, the rural population exceeds the urban population, with the maximum proportion of urban being found in Chowan county (44.3 percent).

It is interesting to note that of the 16 urban centers depicted in Table 7, 13 have higher percentages of aged than their respective counties. In these counties, there is a rather strong tendency for elderly members of the population to be concentrated in the towns having populations 2,500 to 5,000. In fact, in the case of towns like Wadesboro, Mocksville, Marion, and Elkin, the evidence is rather startling.

In 1970, nineteen of North Carolina's counties fell in a category composed of those in which the largest center contained between 5,000 and 10,000 inhabitants. This group is characterized by differentials essentially similar to those found in counties in which places with from 2,500 to 5,000 inhabitants made up the urban sector. As shown in Table 8, where the population nuclei in various sections of the state range from 5,000 to 10,000, the aged part of the population is concentrated in such urban centers. Seven of these, Butner, Barker Heights, East Flat Rock, Williamston, Forest City, Spindale, and Boone, are the only exceptions to the rule. In the remaining 27 centers, the percentages of aged are higher than their respective counties.

Fifteen of North Carolina's counties comprise the group which in 1970, had their largest centers in the 10,000 to 25,000 category. (See Table 9.) In all of these, the major cities without exception, and nearly all of the smaller cities and towns within the respective counties, contained larger proportions of those 65 years of age and over than did the counties as a whole. Of the 37 urban places in this category, only seven had smaller proportions of aged than their respective counties. In this respect, these counties resembled the counties with smaller urban places discussed in the preceding

paragraphs. That is, urban places up to 25,000 inhabitants in North Carolina contain more than their pro rata share of the state's elderly population. It is possible that some of these areas are receiving elderly migrants from outside the state, as will be shown later.

In 1970, North Carolina had 21 counties in which the largest denter contained 25,000 or more inhabitants. Table 10 shows that these counties contained 61 urban places and of these only 38 had higher proportions of aged than their respective counties. When attention focuses on the 22 places with 25,000 or over inhabitants, it is apparent that there are only 6 which do not have larger proportions of the aged than their respective counties. Although these data generally conform to the pattern discussed above, it should be noted that this tendency is not nearly so pronounced in the counties in which the largest center has a population of 25,000 or above. In these counties, the large cities contain the largest share of the elderly while the smaller urban places generally contain a lesser share. This situation is probably a function of the services available in the larger cities. It is in this regard also interesting to note that the differences in percentages between the county as a whole and the largest city within its boundary for this group of counties tends to be smaller than the differences observed in the counties in which the largest place was in a smaller size category. Nevertheless, it would seem reasonable to conclude that the villages, towns and cities in the counties of North Carolina have a disproportionate number of the state's elderly.

TABLE 7. PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN COUNTIES WHOSE LARGEST CENTERS CONTAINED BETWEEN 2,500 and 5,000 INHABITANTS AND IN THE URBAN PLACES IN THE SAME COUNTIES, 1970

Counties		Urban Places	
Name	Percent 65 and Over	Name	Percent 65 and Over
Anson	11.6	Wadesboro	17.2
Chatham	9.3	Siler City	8.1
Chowan	10.5	Edenton	11.8
Columbus	8.1	Whiteville	10.8
Davie	10.0	Mocksville	14.7
Duplin	8.7	Mount Olive	10.7
		Wallace	8.0
		Warsaw	9.9
Franklin	10.4	Louisburg	10.6
Hoke	6.8	Raeford	8.1
McDowell	9.3	Marion	14.1
		West Marion	8.4
		East Marion - Clinchfield	9.4
Washington	7.9	Plymouth	8.1
Wilkes	8.8	North Wilkesboro	10.7
		Elkin	11.3

TABLE 8. PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN COUNTIES WHOSE LARGEST CENTERS CONTAINED BETWEEN 5,000 and 10,000 INHABITANTS AND IN THE URBAN PLACES IN THE SAME COUNTIES, 1970

County		Urban Place	
Name	Percent 65 and Over	Name	Percent 65 and Over
Beaufort	10.5	Washington	11.9
Carteret	9.2	Morehead City	11.4
		Beaufort	13.2
Granville	8.7	Oxford	11.6
		Butner	3.1
Harnett	7.9	Dunn	8.7
		Erwin	10.6
Haywood	10.9	Waynesville	12.1
		Canton	13.3
Henderson	13.5	Hendersonville	19.6
		Barker Heights	13.0
		East Flat Rock	9.4
Hertford	9.1	Ahoskie	10.7
		Murfreesboro	9.3
Johnston	8.7	Smithfield	10.5
		Selma	10.8
		Clayton	9.7
Lincoln	8.3	Lincolnton	10.6
Martin	8.2	Williamston	8.0
Moore	10.8	Southern Pines	13.8
Person	8.6	Roxboro	11.1
Richmond	9.0	Rockingham	10.3
		Hamlet	13.6
		E. Rockingham	10.3

TABLE 8 (Continued)

County		Urban Place	
Name	Percent 65 and Over	Name	Percent 65 and Over
Rutherford	10.7	Forest City	9.4
		Spindale	10.5
		Rutherfordton	13.3
Sampson	9.1	Clinton	10.7
Scotland	6.9	Laurinburg	8.2
Surry	9.5	Mount Airy	11.7
		Elkin	11.3
		Toast	12.0
Transylvania	8.0	Brevard	8.3
Watauga	8.5	Boone	4.4

TABLE 9. PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN COUNTIES WHOSE LARGEST CENTERS CONTAINED BETWEEN 10,000 AND 25,000 INHABITANTS AND IN THE URBAN PLACES IN THE SAME COUNTIES, 1970

County		Urban Place	
Name	Percent 65 and Over	Name	Percent 65 and Over
Burke	8.0	Hickory	8.6
		Morganton	12.7
		Longview	8.2
		Valdese	9.0
Caldwell	6.9	Lenoir	8.9
		Hudson	4.1
Catawba	7.1	Hickory	8.6
		Newton	8.8
		Hickory East	6.3
		Longview	8.2
		Conover	7.4
Cleveland	8.3	Shelby	9.5
		King's Mountain	8.4
Craven	5.9	New Bern	11.1
		Cherry Point	0.2
		Havelock	1.3
		James City	7.1
Halifax	9.3	Roanoke Rapids	9.4
		Enfield	15.0
		Scotland Neck	12.8
Iredell	8.9	Statesville	10.1
		Mooresville	10.4
		West Statesville	5.5
Lee	8.2	Sanford	9.0
Lenoir	7.4	Kinston	9.8
		La Grange	8.9
Pasquotank	9.7	Elizabeth City	12.5

TABLE 9 (Continued)

County		Urban Place	
Name	Percent 65 and Over	Name	Percent 65 and Over
Robeson	7.3	Lumberton	8.6
		Red Springs	10.3
		Fairmont	11.2
Rockingham	9.3	Eden	10.5
		Reidsville	10.5
		Mayodan	9.2
Stanly	9.0	Albermarle	10.6
Union	8.1	Monroe	10.0
		Wingate	4.2
Vance	9.6	Henderson	11.3

TABLE 10. PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN COUNTIES WHOSE LARGEST CENTERS CONTAINED 25,000 OR MORE INHABITANTS AND IN THE URBAN PLACES IN THE SAME COUNTIES, 1970

County		Urban Place	
Name	Percent 65 and Over	Name	Percent 65 and Over
Alamance	7.9	Burlington	8.1
		Graham	9.4
		Morganton	6.1
		Glen Raven	6.8
Buncombe	11.8	Asheville	14.6
		Black Mountain	14.7
Cabarrus	8.6	Kannapolis	8.0
		Concord	10.6
		West Concord	8.0
Cumberland	3.3	Fayetteville	6.5
		Ft. Bragg	0.2
		Spring Lake	1.8
Davidson	7.6	High Point	9.4
		Lexington	8.5
		Thomasville	8.7
Durham	8.2	Durham	9.2
		Chapel Hill	4.4
Edgecombe	8.3	Rocky Mount	10.5
		Tarboro	10.5
Forsyth	7.9	Winston-Salem	8.8
		Kernersville	7.5
Gaston	7.5	Gastonia	8.2
		North Belmont	8.5
		King's Mountain	8.4
		Cherryville	9.7
		Bessemer City	8.8
		Mount Holly	8.9
		Belmont	9.8
		Dallas	7.2
		Gastonia South	8.2
		Lowell	9.2

TABLE 10 (Continued)

County		Urban Place	
Name	Percent 65 and Over	Name	Percent 65 and Over
Guilford	7.7	Greensboro	7.3
		High Point	9.4
Mecklenburg	6.6	Charlotte	7.3
		Davidson	8.2
Nash	8.7	Rocky Mount	10.5
New Hanover	8.4	Wilmington	10.1
Onslow	2.3	Camp Lejeune	0.1
		Jacksonville	3.0
		New River - Geiger	0.1
Orange	6.6	Chapel Hill	4.4
		Carrboro	4.8
Pitt	7.1	Greenville	6.4
		Farmville	10.5
		Ayden	11.3
Randolph	7.9	High Point	9.4
		Asheboro	9.7
		Archdale	7.0
		Balfours	4.9
Rowan	9.9	Kannapolis	8.0
		Salisbury	12.6
		Spencer	16.3
Wake	6.7	Raleigh	7.3
		Cary	3.8
		Garner	4.2
		Fuquay - Varina	10.1
		Wake Forest	11.4
Wayne	6.8	Goldsboro	8.7
		Seymour Johnson	0.1
		Mount Olive	10.7
Wilson	8.2	Wilson	9.1

The Distribution of the Aged in Rural Areas of North Carolina Counties

The aged portion of North Carolina's rural population does not appear to be any more evenly distributed throughout the state than is the aged population as a whole. (See Table 11.) The particular counties of the state in which the persons aged 65 and over constitute high proportions of the rural population tend to be those counties in which the aged make up high proportions of the total population. Likewise, the list of counties with low proportions of aged among the rural population tend to be those in which the aged constitute low proportions of the population as a whole. Macon, Clay, and Polk are examples of the former situation, and Cumberland, Onslow, and Scotland are striking cases of the latter.

There appears to be a state-wide tendency for the rural-farm areas to contain large proportions of the elderly. In fact, when compared to other residence categories, rural-farm ranks highest, at 12.5 percent. At the county level, roughly 30 were below the state average while the remaining 70 were at or about that level. The range in percentages of the aged in the rural-farm areas of counties was from a low of 6.1 percent in Greene and Edgecombe counties to a high of 28.6 percent in Currituck county. When compared to the rural-nonfarm populations in the counties, the percentages of elderly classified as residing in rural-farm areas was equal to or exceeded the percentages in the nonfarm categories in 95 of the 100 counties. The five exceptions were Avery, Greene, Halifax, Moore, and Warren counties.

TABLE 11. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER IN NORTH CAROLINA CLASSIFIED BY RURAL RESIDENCE, 1970

State and Counties	Rural Population 65 and Over		Rural-Farm Population 65 and Over		Rural-Nonfarm Population 65 and Over	
	Number	Percent of Total Rural	Number	Percent of Rural-Farm	Number	Percent of Rural-Nonfarm
North Carolina	231,031	8.3	46,901	12.5	184,130	7.6
Alamance	3,545	7.8	606	13.6	2,939	7.1
Alexander	1,646	8.5	306	16.2	1,340	7.6
Alleghany	1,037	12.7	450	21.0	587	11.5
Anson	2,037	10.4	198	16.0	1,839	10.1
Ashe	2,367	12.1	1,122	17.3	1,245	9.5
Avery	1,262	10.0	87	7.5	1,175	10.2
Beaufort	2,695	10.0	580	12.5	2,115	9.5
Bertie	2,093	10.2	498	10.2	1,595	10.2
Bladen	2,290	8.6	699	13.0	1,591	7.5
Brunswick	2,040	8.4	274	10.2	1,766	8.2
Buncombe	6,644	9.6	887	13.7	5,757	9.2
Burke	2,931	6.8	165	21.1	2,766	6.5
Cabarrus	2,159	8.0	385	21.1	1,774	7.1
Caldwell	2,508	6.4	113	12.2	2,395	6.3
Camden	582	10.7	82	19.0	500	10.0
Carteret	1,855	8.1	188	22.7	1,667	7.5
Caswell	1,617	8.5	539	10.3	1,078	7.8
Catawba	3,221	6.2	234	10.2	2,987	5.9
Chatham	2,235	9.0	566	15.0	1,669	7.9
Cherokee	1,962	12.0	149	19.7	1,813	11.6
Chowan	554	9.2	160	16.0	394	7.9
Clay	726	14.0	116	14.4	610	13.9
Cleveland	3,769	7.8	401	16.0	3,368	7.4
Columbus	3,379	7.9	1,043	10.0	2,336	7.2
Craven	1,781	6.4	353	11.0	1,428	5.8
Cumberland	2,455	4.9	460	12.8	1,995	4.2
Currituck	845	12.1	110	28.6	735	11.2
Dare	914	13.1	11	13.3	903	13.1
Davidson	4,314	7.2	879	17.2	3,435	6.2
Davie	1,499	9.2	396	17.5	1,103	7.8
Duplin	2,786	8.7	941	10.8	1,845	7.8
Durham	1,932	6.1	229	11.0	1,703	5.8
Edgecombe	1,697	6.1	311	6.1	1,386	6.1
Forsyth	4,531	6.9	646	19.2	3,885	6.2
Franklin	2,488	10.4	798	10.5	1,690	10.4

TABLE 11.(Continued)

State and Counties	Rural Population 65 and Over		Rural-Farm Population 65 and Over		Rural-Nonfarm Population 65 and Over	
	Number	Percent of Total Rural	Number	Percent of Rural-Farm	Number	Percent of Rural-Nonfarm
Gaston	3,934	6.7	364	17.9	3,570	6.3
Gates	955	11.2	355	20.9	600	8.8
Graham	712	10.9	155	16.6	557	9.9
Granville	1,978	9.0	669	9.9	1,309	8.6
Greene	967	6.5	305	6.1	662	6.6
Guilford	5,020	7.3	1,142	17.0	3,878	6.3
Halifax	2,948	8.7	459	8.2	2,489	8.7
Harnett	2,830	7.3	795	11.2	2,035	6.5
Haywood	3,052	10.1	571	15.2	2,481	9.4
Henderson	3,871	12.6	270	12.6	3,601	12.6
Hertford	1,341	8.7	358	10.7	983	8.1
Hoke	879	6.6	231	16.6	648	5.5
Hyde	680	12.2	149	17.8	531	11.2
Iredell	3,416	8.5	791	20.5	2,625	7.2
Jackson	2,002	9.3	202	15.2	1,800	8.9
Johnston	3,858	8.1	1,365	10.8	2,493	7.1
Jones	855	8.7	193	10.2	662	8.4
Lee	1,449	7.7	206	11.3	1,243	7.3
Lenoir	1,679	5.5	516	10.3	1,163	4.6
Lincoln	2,170	7.9	219	13.0	1,951	7.6
McDowell	1,838	8.7	90	16.0	1,748	8.5
Macon	2,250	14.3	156	14.9	2,094	14.2
Madison	2,105	13.2	1,197	15.6	908	10.9
Martin	1,551	8.5	464	9.5	1,087	8.2
Mecklenburg	4,577	6.4	219	12.5	4,358	6.2
Mitchell	1,674	12.4	363	17.8	1,311	11.5
Montgomery	1,987	10.3	127	16.1	1,860	10.1
Moore	3,366	10.2	349	10.1	3,017	10.2
Nash	3,238	8.1	865	8.9	2,373	7.8
New Hanover	1,618	6.3	57	22.5	1,561	6.2
Northampton	2,433	10.1	352	15.3	2,081	9.6
Onslow	1,819	4.1	384	13.1	1,435	3.5
Orange	2,571	9.0	521	15.4	2,050	8.1
Pamlico	1,100	11.6	102	10.5	998	11.2
Pasquotank	788	6.1	164	16.0	624	5.2
Pender	1,838	10.1	384	14.3	1,452	9.4
Perquimans	1,093	13.1	363	19.7	730	11.2
Person	1,700	8.3	422	8.8	1,278	8.1
Pitt	2,522	6.8	763	7.7	1,759	6.5

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TABLE 11 (Continued)

State and Counties	Rural Population 65 and Over		Rural-Farm Population 65 and Over		Rural-Nonfarm Population 65 and Over	
	Number	Percent of Total Rural	Number	Percent of Rural-Farm	Number	Percent of Rural-Nonfarm
Polk	1,870	15.9	132	18.0	1,738	15.8
Randolph	4,215	7.9	833	14.2	3,382	7.1
Richmond	2,112	8.0	132	9.5	1,980	7.9
Robeson	3,974	6.4	1,126	8.2	2,848	5.9
Rockingham	3,314	8.3	774	10.9	2,540	7.7
Rowan	4,706	9.0	537	15.5	4,169	8.6
Rutherford	3,522	10.6	285	18.5	3,237	10.3
Sampson	3,301	8.7	1,364	11.4	1,937	7.5
Scotland	1,059	5.8	139	7.2	920	5.7
Stanly	2,726	8.6	275	12.8	2,451	8.3
Stokes	2,253	9.5	1,128	15.4	1,125	6.8
Surry	3,407	8.8	920	13.2	2,487	7.9
Swain	951	12.1	145	22.9	806	11.2
Transylvania	1,156	8.0	76	16.0	1,080	7.8
Tyrrell	468	12.3	147	17.6	321	10.8
Union	3,297	8.1	981	16.2	2,316	6.7
Vance	1,582	8.4	447	10.4	1,135	7.8
Wake	4,729	6.8	1,232	13.8	3,497	5.7
Warren	2,037	12.9	608	12.0	1,429	13.3
Washington	706	7.6	196	15.4	510	6.4
Watauga	1,584	10.8	594	15.5	990	9.2
Wayne	2,912	6.4	639	7.5	2,273	6.1
Wilkes	3,998	8.7	437	10.6	3,561	8.5
Wilson	1,988	7.1	551	8.2	1,437	6.7
Yadkin	2,522	10.3	1,014	18.2	1,508	7.9
Yancey	1,486	11.8	552	14.9	934	10.5

As might be expected, the data do indicate differences in the distribution of elderly males and females in the population of rural North Carolina. (See Table 12.) In the rural population of the state, females rather substantially outnumber males. The sex ratio in 1970 was 78.5 males per 100 females among all those aged 65 and over. As may be calculated from data presented in Table 9, this ratio is highest (89.7) in the rural-farm portion of the rural population, and lowest (62.7) in the segment made up of persons living in places of 1,000 to 2,500 inhabitants. In the total rural-nonfarm population the corresponding ratio is 75.1.

At the county level, the majority of sex ratios for the rural elderly are in the 70 to 80 range, resulting in a degree of stability from county to county. The overall range in the state was from 64.7 in Hertford county to 101.7 in Graham, with the latter being the only county in which the sex ratio exceeded 100.0.

TABLE 12. RURAL POPULATION AGED 65 AND OVER IN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES, BY SEX, 1970

State and Counties	Males	Females	Sex Ratio	State and Counties	Males	Females	Sex Ratio
North Carolina	101,619	129,412	78.5	Guilford	2,280	2,740	83.2
Alamance	1,576	1,969	80.0	Halifax	1,322	1,626	81.3
Alexander	690	956	72.2	Harnett	1,162	1,668	69.7
Alleghany	503	634	79.3	Haywood	1,418	1,634	86.8
Anson	856	1,181	72.5	Henderson	1,756	2,115	83.0
Ashe	1,100	1,267	86.8	Hertford	527	814	64.7
Avery	560	702	79.8	Hoke	404	475	85.1
Beaufort	1,115	1,500	70.6	Hyde	279	401	69.6
Bertie	926	1,167	79.3	Iredell	1,469	1,947	75.4
Bladen	990	1,300	76.2	Jackson	959	1,043	91.9
Brunswick	972	1,068	91.0	Johnston	1,593	2,265	70.3
Buncombe	3,048	3,596	84.8	Jones	394	461	85.5
Burke	1,311	1,620	80.9	Lee	630	811	78.7
Cabarrus	937	1,222	76.7	Lenoir	750	929	80.7
Caldwell	1,159	1,349	85.9	Lincoln	973	1,197	81.3
Camden	271	311	87.1	McDowell	857	981	87.4
Carteret	826	1,029	80.3	Macon	1,076	1,174	91.7
Caswell	728	889	81.9	Madison	985	1,120	87.9
Catawba	1,379	1,842	74.9	Martin	667	884	75.5
Chatham	1,012	1,223	82.7	Mecklenburg	1,905	2,672	71.3
Cherokee	891	1,071	83.2	Mitchell	755	919	82.2
Chowan	223	331	67.4	Montgomery	844	1,143	73.8
Clay	332	394	84.3	Moore	1,500	1,866	80.4
Cleveland	1,622	2,147	75.5	Nash	1,415	1,821	77.7
Columbus	1,446	1,933	74.8	New Hanover	734	884	83.0
Craven	748	1,033	72.4	Northampton	1,006	1,427	70.5
Cumberland	1,085	1,370	79.2	Onslow	835	984	84.9
Currituck	358	487	73.5	Orange	1,088	1,483	73.4
Dare	374	540	69.3	Pamlico	483	617	78.3
Davidson	1,904	2,410	79.0	Pasquotank	353	435	81.1
Davie	677	822	82.4	Pender	791	1,045	75.7
Duplin	1,207	1,579	76.4	Perquimans	493	600	82.2
Durham	853	1,079	79.1	Person	765	935	81.8
Edgecombe	758	939	80.7	Pitt	1,106	1,416	78.1
Forsyth	1,928	2,603	74.1	Polk	789	1,081	73.0
Franklin	1,039	1,449	71.7	Randolph	1,858	2,357	78.8
Gaston	1,789	2,145	83.4	Richmond	869	1,243	69.9
Gates	387	568	68.1	Robeson	1,728	2,246	76.9
Graham	359	353	101.7	Rockingham	1,447	1,867	77.5
Granville	840	1,130	75.0	Rowan	2,039	2,667	76.5
Greene	426	541	78.7	Rutherford	1,487	2,035	73.1
				Sampson	1,470	1,831	80.3

TABLE 12 (Continued)

State and Counties	Males	Females	Sex Ratio
Scotland	496	563	88.1
Stanly	1,182	1,544	76.6
Stokes	1,024	1,229	83.3
Surry	1,513	1,894	79.9
Swain	442	509	86.8
Transylvania	542	614	88.3
Tyrrell	198	270	73.3
Union	1,468	1,829	80.3
Vance	693	889	78.0
Wake	2,003	2,726	73.5
Warren	871	1,166	74.7
Washington	324	382	84.8
Watauga	725	859	84.4
Wayne	1,240	1,672	74.2
Wilkes	1,767	2,231	79.2
Wilson	878	1,110	79.1
Yadkin	1,098	1,424	77.1
Yancey	673	813	82.8

MIGRATION OF THE AGED

There is a relative paucity of data which bears directly on migration, consequently most conclusions often rely on inference from such materials as have been presented. Moreover, data pertaining to the movements of elderly people from one county to another or from state to state are lacking, and most of what we have is based upon estimates. Most of these estimates are made by using the survival ratio method of measuring net migration. This method estimates how many people from an earlier census would be alive and living in the same place at the time of the next census if there were no migration. This expected number of survivors is subtracted from the actual census count at the second census, and the difference is used as an estimate of the net number of migrants. The estimate of survivors is obtained by multiplying each age group of the original census by a survival ratio which estimates what proportion of the population of that age group would be still living at the date of the terminal census.

Utilizing this method, estimates of the net in-and out-migration of persons 65 and over at the time of the 1970 census were made for North Carolina and each county. (See Table 13.) The estimates were made separately for males and females, because of the predominance of females in the elderly population and because of differences in the migratory behavior of men and women.

TABLE 13. ESTIMATED NET-MIGRATION OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER FOR NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES BETWEEN 1960 AND 1970, BY SEX*

State and Counties	Total		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
North Carolina	11,927	3.0	4,759	3.4	7,168	4.1
Alamance	445	8.1	220	9.4	225	7.1
Alexander	95	7.6	45	7.8	50	7.5
Alleghany	122	13.6	70	16.7	52	10.8
Anson	156	7.4	26	2.7	130	11.2
Ashe	6	.3	67	6.9	-61	-5.8
Avery	-34	-3.2	-10	-1.9	-24	-4.4
Beaufort	-27	-.9	-9	-.7	-18	-1.1
Bertie	-180	-9.2	-21	-2.4	-159	-14.7
Bladen	-93	-4.7	-51	-5.3	-42	-4.0
Brunswick	198	13.6	143	19.2	55	7.7
Buncombe	1,227	9.4	481	8.3	746	10.3
Burke	-132	-3.3	-39	-2.2	-93	-4.2
Cabarrus	158	3.4	42	2.2	116	4.4
Caldwell	23	.8	52	3.8	-29	-1.8
Camden	-39	-8.0	-6	-2.4	-33	-13.7
Carteret	213	10.0	119	12.1	94	8.1
Caswell	-28	-2.0	-29	-4.2	1	.1
Catawba	426	9.3	101	5.0	325	12.7
Chatham	-1	-0.4	16	1.5	-17	-1.5
Cherokee	32	1.9	43	5.1	-11	-1.3
Chowan	-61	-6.4	-9	-2.1	-52	-9.9
Clay	-12	-1.9	3	.9	-15	-4.9
Cleveland	33	.7	12	.6	21	.8
Columbus	-115	-3.7	-75	-5.2	-40	-2.4
Craven	-210	-6.9	-109	-8.5	-101	-5.7
Cumberland	412	8.3	198	9.2	214	7.6
Currituck	6	.9	-6	-1.8	12	3.6
Dare	104	16.3	33	10.8	71	21.5
Davidson	600	11.9	293	13.1	307	10.9
Davie	82	5.5	50	7.0	32	4.1
Duplin	-172	-6.3	-59	-4.9	-113	-7.4
Durham	533	7.1	205	6.6	328	7.4
Edgecombe	-270	-7.9	-57	-4.0	-213	-10.8
Forsyth	381	3.3	28	.6	353	5.2
Franklin	-5	-.2	-28	-2.8	23	1.9
Gaston	607	8.1	167	5.2	440	10.3
Gates	-58	-6.5	-30	-7.3	-28	-5.9
Graham	86	17.5	57	22.1	29	12.4
Granville	-463	-17.1	-171	-14.3	-292	-19.3
Greene	-101	-13.8	-40	-11.7	-61	-15.5
Guilford	1,495	9.9	398	6.3	1,097	12.7

TABLE 13 (Continued)

State and Counties	Total		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Halifax	-26	-.7	5	.3	-31	-1.4
Harnett	-231	-7.1	-189	-12.6	-42	-2.4
Haywood	492	15.0	261	16.8	231	13.4
Henderson	1,020	23.9	534	26.8	486	21.3
Hertford	215	13.7	70	9.8	145	16.9
Hoke	-85	-8.7	-23	-5.0	-62	-12.0
Hyde	-80	-10.7	-24	-7.1	-56	-13.5
Iredell	325	6.6	131	6.0	194	7.1
Jackson	37	2.2	56	6.4	-19	-2.4
Johnston	-378	-8.6	-197	-9.8	-181	-7.6
Jones	-50	-7.4	-15	-4.5	-35	-10.1
Lee	257	14.4	76	9.4	181	18.6
Lenoir	2	.1	28	2.3	-26	-1.6
Lincoln	-26	-1.2	46	4.7	-72	-5.8
McDowell	267	13.2	141	14.6	126	12.0
Macon	357	22.3	213	26.9	144	17.8
Madison	106	6.2	120	14.8	-14	-1.6
Martin	-154	-9.3	-98	-12.8	-56	-6.2
Mecklenburg	1,810	11.6	334	5.3	1,476	15.9
Mitchell	191	15.5	102	16.7	89	14.3
Montgomery	102	6.7	38	5.4	64	7.8
Moore	345	10.8	207	14.7	138	7.7
Nash	-143	-3.5	-87	-4.7	-56	-2.5
New Hanover	-76	-1.4	-45	-2.0	-31	-1.0
Northampton	-138	-6.4	-37	-3.9	-101	-8.3
Onslow	118	7.3	81	11.1	37	4.2
Orange	536	20.3	208	17.7	328	22.4
Pamlico	39	4.4	24	5.7	15	3.2
Pasquotank	83	4.1	-7	-.8	90	8.3
Pender	-16	-1.1	-2	-.3	-14	-1.8
Perquimans	21	2.3	44	10.7	-23	-4.5
Person	-75	-4.1	-50	-5.9	-25	-2.5
Pitt	-259	-6.2	-132	-7.5	-127	-5.3
Polk	340	24.9	170	28.2	170	22.2
Randolph	594	14.1	260	13.4	334	14.6
Richmond	-115	-4.1	-94	-7.6	-21	-1.3
Robeson	-377	-7.3	-118	-5.2	-259	-8.9
Rockingham	50	1.0	11	.5	39	1.4
Rowan	503	7.6	252	8.5	251	6.9
Rutherford	127	3.2	55	3.2	72	3.3
Sampson	-201	-5.9	-67	-4.2	-134	-7.4
Scotland	-125	-8.0	-63	-9.4	-62	-7.0

TABLE 13 (Continued)

State and Counties	Total		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Stanly	-39	-1.3	-19	-1.4	-20	-1.3
Stokes	44	2.4	50	5.8	-6	-.6
Surry	170	4.5	90	5.2	80	3.9
Swain	-3	-.4	6	1.4	-9	-2.3
Transylvania	80	7.4	50	8.8	30	6.1
Tyrrell	-27	-5.9	-15	-7.0	-12	-5.0
Union	309	9.5	151	10.1	158	9.0
Vance	54	2.2	-20	-1.9	74	5.2
Wake	921	8.4	186	4.0	735	11.6
Warren	-109	-6.0	-49	-5.9	-60	-6.2
Washington	-69	-7.6	-12	-2.8	-57	-11.9
Watauga	115	7.5	91	12.5	24	3.0
Wayne	-396	-8.4	-157	-7.8	-239	-8.9
Wilkes	77	2.2	72	4.3	5	.3
Wilson	-234	-6.4	-89	-5.7	-145	-7.0
Yadkin	122	6.5	67	7.7	55	5.4
Yancey	-45	-3.3	-21	-3.1	-24	-3.5

*The county estimates do not add to the totals for the state due to rounding error.

On the basis of these estimates, it appears that the aged population in North Carolina was nearly 12,000, or 4 percent larger in 1970 than would have been the case had there been no migration during the ten years preceding the 1970 census. The estimate for the decade 1950 to 1960 indicates that the state's population 65 and over was 2.6 percent (5,859) larger than would have been the case had there been no exchange of those in or near retirement. For the 1940 to 1950 period, the gain of those of comparable ages was 2.2 percent (3,448). It is apparent that the state has been gaining persons above 65 years of age absolutely and relatively over the last several decades.

As a result of migration, roughly the same number of counties in the state gained and lost persons who figured in the aged population in 1970 during the decade under consideration, the exact numbers being 46 in which the net migration was away from the county in comparison with 54 in which it was to the county. It should be noted at this point that in a large share of the counties the numbers involved are too small to be significant, consequently, conclusions must be viewed as tentative. Nevertheless, there were 22 counties in which the aged population was reduced by more than 100 as a result of net out-migration between 1960 and 1970, and 35 in which it was increased by as many as 100 by net in-migration. In fact, 11 counties experienced a net gain due to in-migration of more than 500 persons 65 years of age and over. These were:

Buncombe	1,227	Henderson	1,020
Davidson	600	Mecklenburg	1,810
Durham	533	Orange	536
Gaston	607	Randolph	594
Guilford	1,495	Rowan	503
		Wake	921

Most of these counties have rather substantial urban populations.

The counties experiencing the greatest net loss due to out-migration were:

Craven	-210	Montgomery	-582
Edgecombe	-270	Pitt	-259
Granville	-463	Robeson	-377
Harnett	-231	Sampson	-201
Iredell	-325	Wayne	-396
Johnston	-378	Wilson	-234

The majority of these counties have rather substantial rural populations. It might be mentioned that Montgomery county is the only strictly rural county in this group.

It should also be noted that of the counties having net gains of 10.0 percent or above, 8 are located in the western part of the state, 6 are in the Piedmont, and 4 are located in the eastern region. Of the 4 in the eastern region, 3 are along the coast -- Dare, Carteret, and Brunswick counties.

The data presented in Table 13 demonstrate that during the last decade females 65 and over migrated into the state in larger numbers and at a higher rate than males of a comparable age. The net gain of males was 4,759, or 3.4 percent and of females 7,168, or 4.1 percent. This same sex differential has prevailed over the last several decades.

There are a number of cases in which a substantial net movement of elderly males to a county, during the period 1960 to 1970, was accompanied by a considerable net migration of elderly females in the opposite direction. One may note in this connection the data for Chatham, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Perquimans, and Stokes counties. Only in Currituck and Pasquotank, however, was a substantial movement of elderly females to the county accompanied by a migration of elderly males in the opposite direction. It should be indicated, nevertheless, that the dominant pattern was one in which the movement in and out of males and females was parallel.

SUMMARY

The major findings of this report are as follows:

(1) North Carolina contains smaller proportions of the aged than the nation as a whole. In 1970, North Carolina had 8.2 percent aged 65 and over, while the United States had 9.9 percent. In other words, North Carolina had 83 percent of its pro rata share of the aged population of the nation.

(2) North Carolina belongs in a group of 31 states in which the rural population contains a higher proportion of those aged 65 and over than does the urban. It should be noted, however, that the percentages in North Carolina are similar -- urban, 8.0 percent and rural, 8.3 percent.

(3) The aging of the population in North Carolina has consistently lagged behind that of the United States. In 1970, one out of every twelve persons in the total population of the state was above 65 years of age, in comparison with one in every ten in the United States as a whole.

(4) In 1970 there were 34 counties in North Carolina in which there were no centers having as many as 2,500 persons. These strictly rural counties have higher proportions of the aged than the state average of 8.2 percent, with the exception of Greene county.

(5) The proportions of the aged in the urban sectors of counties in which the largest place has less than 25,000 inhabitants run higher than their respective counties. That is, the aged tend to be concentrated in all the urban centers of these counties in which the largest place is between 2,500 - 4,999, 5,000 - 9,999, and 10,000 - 24,999.

(6) The proportions of the aged in the urban sectors of counties in which the largest place has more than 25,000 persons varies. The proportion of the aged in the cities of 25,000 or more in these counties tends to be higher than their respective counties while the proportion of elderly in urban places below 25,000 in these counties tends to be lower.

(7) In both the United States and North Carolina there is a strong tendency for places of 1,000 to 2,500 to contain the largest proportions, and the urban fringes the lowest proportions of aged people. The general tendency is for old people to concentrate in small population centers and to shun the fringes of urbanized areas.

(8) The proportion of elderly is lowest in the rural-nonfarm territory of North Carolina and in the urban areas of the United States, intermediate in urban areas in North Carolina and rural-nonfarm areas of the United States, and highest of all on the farms in both North Carolina and the United States as a whole.

(9) Female elderly show a greater tendency than men to concentrate in small places in both North Carolina and the United States. Elderly men avoid the urban fringe areas to a greater extent than elderly women.

(10) Within North Carolina, aged females outnumber males in the rural population. There were 78 males for every 100 females in the rural sector. This pattern was more evident in the urban population where there were 60 males per 100 females. In the farm population the ratio was 90 males per 100 females and in the nonfarm population the ratio was 75.

(11) North Carolina experienced a net gain of nearly 12,000 elderly as a result of migration during the 1960-1970 decade. This increase was not equally distributed among the counties -- roughly the same number of North Carolina's counties gained and lost elderly people.

(12) During the 1960-1970 decade, females 65 and over migrated into North Carolina in larger numbers and at a higher rate than males of a comparable age. Within the state, there were six counties in which a substantial net movement of elderly males to a county was accompanied by a net migration of elderly females in the opposite direction, and only two counties in which the reverse was true.

CONCLUSIONS

It becomes apparent after reviewing the results of this report that the aging of North Carolina's population will continue. With declining fertility and continuing in-migration of persons 65 and over, the process of aging is likely to accelerate. This situation could intensify many social, organizational, and governmental problems. Among the potential problems are the increased demand for public services as well as a change in demands for types of services associated with this pattern. Moreover, there may arise a problem of providing an adequate system of services due to the varying location of elderly throughout the state. This, of course, would require effective planning in both the public and private sectors.

However, the maturing of North Carolina's population certainly is not a cause for alarm. In fact, this situation may be viewed as favorable in the sense that a sizable proportion of persons 65 and over may add to the intellectual and material wealth of the state. In addition, it would seem reasonable that a maturing and/or aging population would be more efficient and possibly richer in cultural resources than a younger and/or more immature population.

This does not imply that adjustments will not be necessary. The labor market as well as the general outlook of communities may eventually have to adapt to a progressively aging population. It would seem safe to assume, however, that future changes in the age structure of the state will tend to improve the efficiency of its population by diminishing the size of childhood dependency problems and by increasing its productive capacities.

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